

SEPTEMBER 2003

# THE ONYX informer

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA SINCE 1972

A Timeless Treasure: Celebrating Dudley Square

## EXPLORE & EXPERIENCE

PARK STREET



RED LINE

NORTHEASTER  
FORSYTH ST.



BLUE HILL AVE

COLUMBUS AVE

NORTHEASTER  
UNIVERSITY

MASSACHUSETTS AVE.

TO TRAINS

RUGGLES



TREMONT S



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# MOTIVATED

## Explore and Experience

**I**t's that time again. Time for new students to aimlessly wander around campus. Time for the reluctant purchase of overpriced textbooks. Time for the reunion of friends and the closing of what once was and the initiation of new beginnings.

New beginnings-that's what it's all about. Starting over and working with a clean slate. I can definitely relate to the freshman class coming in because this year I am also experiencing a new beginning as the Editor in Chief of The Onyx Informer. I guess you can say that The Onyx is my slate.

Last week I sat crossed legged on my bedroom floor with my memory box in front of me attempting to get some kind of inspiration for my very first letter from the editor. As I sifted through the pile of countless letters, cards, concert tickets, and pictures vivid memories of freshmen year began to come back to me. Some recollections made me smile, a few made me laugh so hard my sides hurt and others threat-

me wrong my first year definitely had it's rock bottom-confused-tired-aggravated-not even a dollar to my name-low points but I've come to the understanding that in life, regardless how cliché it sounds, the good always comes with the bad. You can't have one without the other and as soon as you accept that it's pretty much smooth sailing.

**In the midst of my reminiscing I realized that I have no desire to trade my freshmen year experience at Northeastern for anything.**

It's not my style to create a long list telling this year's incoming freshmen who they shouldn't hang with or where they shouldn't go because honestly none of that matters. It doesn't matter because in the end the best teacher is experience.

My freshmen year at Northeastern taught me that it's vital to capture and embrace every moment and opportunity.

of those that have come before us.

Get involved. Become a part of a larger picture. Meet and network with people who share your purpose and aspirations. Use all the resources that Northeastern and the community have to offer.

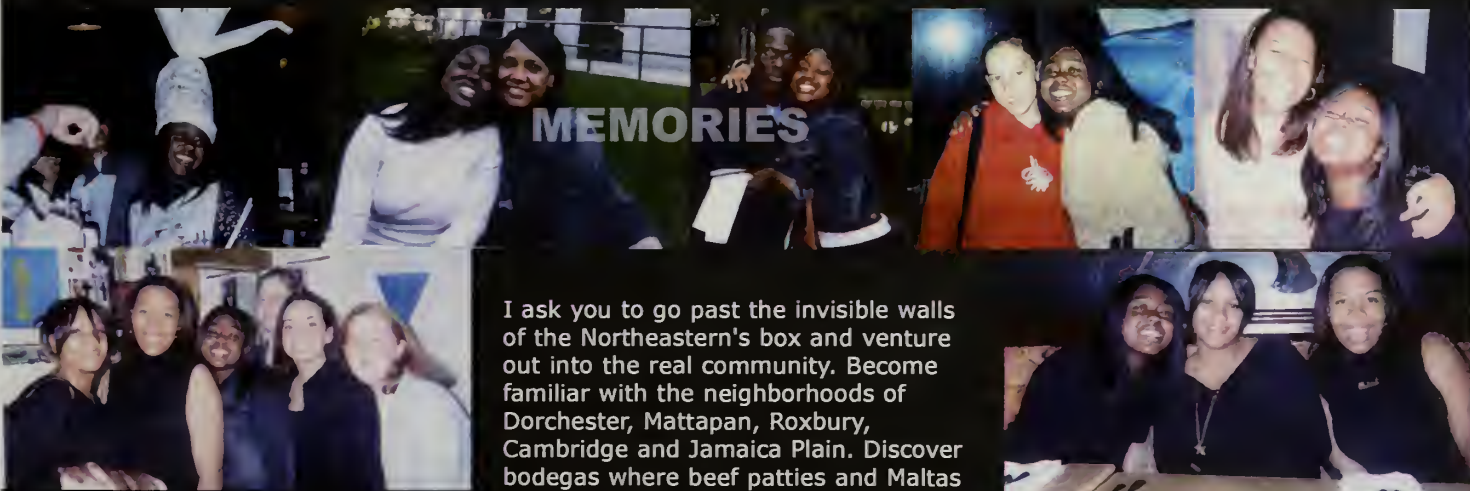
With this year's first issue of The Onyx

Informer as your guide I urge you to explore and experience.

On your exploration make sure to take pictures so that maybe one day you too can have your own memory box.

Peace and Blessings

*Kat Noel*



ened to cause tears to stream down my face.

In the midst of my reminiscing I realized that I have no desire to trade my freshmen year experience at Northeastern for anything. Don't get

I ask you to go past the invisible walls of the Northeastern's box and venture out into the real community. Become familiar with the neighborhoods of Dorchester, Mattapan, Roxbury, Cambridge and Jamaica Plain. Discover bodegas where beef patties and Maltas can be bought. Encounter areas where Haitian, Dominican, Cape Verdean, and Nigerian accents merge and become one. Wander down streets that are filled with calypso, reggae, and kompa music and are overflowing with the smell of arroz con pollo and spicy jerk chicken. Visit places that tell the history

### WORDS OF WISDOM

*Ability is what you're capable of doing  
Motivation determines what you do  
Attitude determines how well you do it*





**I** remember driving from Philadelphia with my family and staring out of the window, thinking to myself, "this is really it, I'm here. I graduated from High School and I am on my way to college." As we were approaching Boston, I could see the Prudential Center getting closer and closer, as if coming to greet me personally to Boston. I noticed there were other cars next to ours, with college students and boxes in the backseat and thought to myself, "they must be going to Northeastern, too."

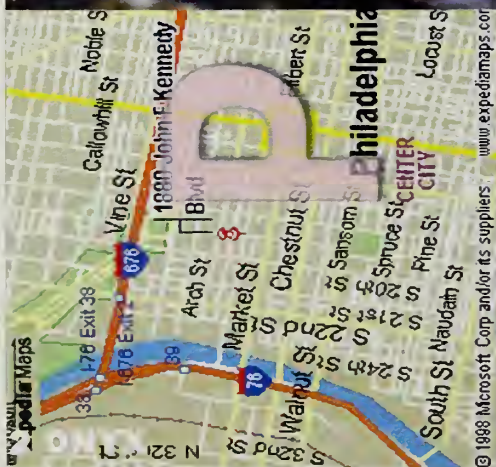
After finding a parking space in the lot near Stetson East, I'm off to find Spear Hall and to get keys to my new room. There are families walking around, looking for this building or that parking lot, while others are pushing moving carts, overflowing with lamps, pillows, extension cords, and books, amongst others items. The sun also begins to set as mothers give their children one last hug before leaving them to fend for themselves as college freshmen and fathers give their son's a hearty pat on the back and offer words of wisdom for making it through their first year.

The time has come now for me to bid farewell to my own family, who wishes me well with hugs and prayers. At first, I am reluctant to say good-bye because the reality that I am now on my own in a new city with new people has suddenly hit me. And although nervous, and yes, a bit scared, I am also extremely excited to be a freshman. My friends that I grew up with were freshmen too, so I could look forward to lots of new adventures and experiences, and new connections.

As you embark on a similar journey, I hope that your experiences here at Northeastern will be memorable as well as enjoyable. You will create new relationships, go to new places and try new things. And when you walk across the stage in 2008 at the Fleet Center, to receive your degrees as graduates of Northeastern University, just know that it is not the end of a journey but the beginning of a new one, just like the one you began as a freshman.

Always,  
Adrienne

**Moving Thoughts**







# OPEN BOOK

## CHAPTER 4

DA ENSEMBLE & DA REMIX

"Hot damn, it's a new day"...and it begun with me waking up three hours before the moon said, "It's a wrap" and three hours before the sun began to bogard it's brethren for it's position in the sky. I felt alive and energized as if this early routine was apart of my natural rhythms, but truth be told, I've never been the one to catch worms. So what's really good? Why was I up so damn early? I thought about it for a second, but it was a waste of time. I was only patronizing myself. I knew exactly why I was up so early. I knew for quite some time.

I knew a month ago when I got that letter in the mail, reminding me of how to prepare myself for this day. I knew two weeks ago when my grandmother sat me down to let me know the deal about what that day meant for

emotions that came about because of the significance of today. Significant like my first step, my first word, my first vacation. Significant like my first birthday, my first Christmas, my first time away from home. Significant like my first fight, my first girl, my first time (shhh...still a virgin, still a virgin...born again). Similar to my first day at A Philip Randolph High School.

Randolph was the beginning of Chapter 3 in my book of schooling. On that first day of Chapter 3, I woke up early, and hit up the wardrobe that I attained from the back to school shopping with my mother's company and my pops money. I pulled out the outfit that I used to talk to almost every day, saying, "I can't wait to rock you". Vain and corny yes, but whatever. I was doing me, continuing a tradition that was apart of my life since I started

new, even though months before I was sad about moving on from the people, the school and the life I had once known in Chapter 2, junior high school. My eyes widened as I saw all the different girls that I would inevitably become cool with and even try to holla at. The fellas that would ultimately become my mans n dem, revealed themselves through shared interests and that inexplicable vibe that just draws you to people. The traveling, classes and the environment took a little getting used to and eventually they just all became a way of life. My familiar.

Over those next four years in Randolph, I lived, loved and learned from the classes, the people and myself. I weathered all of the storms that I came across and graduated to the place of where I am today.



her. I knew last week when I dialed the numbers of my peoples only to realize that most of them left the boundaries we called home, and ventured off into the path I too, would soon proclaim. I knew three days ago when I walked into the house and was greeted by a million and one boxes and two million and two bags lined up in the hallway. I knew last night when my parents told me to get some rest, because "We have an early start and a long drive tomorrow. Tomorrow is the day."

I practically watched yesterday's tomorrow turn into today because my sleep was subdued by a challenge I had with time and myself. It was as if the clock on my bedroom wall and I were having a stare down to see who could stay up the longest. I lost an hour here and an hour there, but kept on getting right back into the game. My favorite past time activity was suppressed by the anxiety and

school. After getting dressed, and eating breakfast, I stepped out the door with my, "I'm about to go to a new school, you can't touch me because I got on a new wears fitted right and my new Nikes looking tight" swagger that was my strut for the next 10 minutes.

I walked to the Parkchester train stop and headed for 125th Street. I lived in the Bronx. Randolph was in Harlem. My pops showed me how to get here during the summer so it was mechanical right about now. I exited the train station and waited at the bus stop for the 101 bus. Along with me were people. People that looked like me. Black adults headed for their jobs and black students headed to school. After the bus ride I approached the building that was going to grant me all of the opportunities to fill up Chapter 3 of my life.

That first day, I was enamored with the thought of doing something

After we loaded up the cars, we hopped in and headed on 95 North towards the place that I would call home for the next five years or so. When we finally made it we got off the highway and exited at the Prudential Center exit. That building would be my equivalent of the North Star. Whenever I was lost in Boston or coming back from traveling, that icon told me I was back in "da Bean".

I noticed that the school felt a little different from when I previously came up for orientation but I shook it off. After I unloaded the truck, said my good-byes to my family and began to unpack a lifetimes worth of possessions into a double barely able to house two people comfortably let alone three, I noticed that it was not the school that felt different, it was me.

There I was placing old pictures

Continued on pg. 8



## MR. BARTLEY'S BURGER



**M**r. Bartley's Burger Cottage has been a legend in Harvard Square's community since 1961. With its picnic tables, lawn chairs, and loud environment Mr. Bartley's is reminiscent of a camp mess hall. With 20 different types of burgers, and new ones added to the menu each day, there's something to satisfy your every need. Each burger comes with the option of having it as a Veggie, Turkey, Chicken, or Beef burger. Each burger is named after a political or celebrity icon. The Bill Gates is a standout burger with cheddar cheese, sautéed onions and peppers. This burger comes with the choice of regular French fries, or delicious sweet potato fries as well as onion rings and cole slaw. For those of us who like to keep it light sometimes, Mr. Bartley's offers amazing Hollywood Wraps. The Nicole Kidman is an excellent filling yet healthy option is consists of Romaine lettuce, tomato, red onion, feta cheese, and black olives with vinaigrette dressing. With seafood options such as fried fish and crab cakes and one of a kind fried chicken sandwiches, Bartley's has something to suit any appetite. You cannot leave without trying one of their amazing Frappes, which have been voted numerous times as the best in Boston. Mr. Bartley's is the perfect Saturday afternoon outing for lunch, or Saturday evening for an informal date.

1246 MASS AVE, CAMBRIDGE, MASS

- Melissa Potter

## BELLA LUNA

403 Centre Street Jamaica Plain

**B**ella Luna, which means beautiful moon in Spanish, is a vibrant spot that greets guest with its bold colors, laid back romantic ambiance and mouth-watering food selections. The restaurants tables are dressed with red table clothes, candles and hand painted plates. Suspended above the intimate setting are star shaped lights. Painted deep blue walls with stars, space ships, and a golden moon mirror makes even Bella Luna's bathroom worth visiting. Dishes like Bella Luna's Star-Crossed Chicken, Centre Street Sirloin, and Shrimp Scampi are guaranteed to have patrons licking both their fingers and plates cleaned. There is also an option of eating outside on those warm days in the restaurants enclosed cozy patio that resembles a backyard. When the food from Bella Luna's has settled and you're interested in enjoying you're night the Milky Way Lounge and Lanes is definitely the place to hit up. Right next door to Bella Luna The Milky Way Lounge and Lanes offers seven bowling lanes, a bar, arcade games, and pool. The Milk Way Lounge and Lanes and Bella Luna restaurant are two locations that promise an out of this world experience.



- Kat Noel





## Mmmmm hungry? Have no fear, Stetson East and Huntington Ave aren't the only locations you can grab a bite to eat.



It's 6:34pm, and you just got out of the library or the gym. Its time to grub but you're faced with a couple of problems. All you have to your name before your next care package arrives is a one-cup of noodle package. What you really want to eat is some rice and beans, fried plantains, with some stewed chicken and the last time you checked that kind of meal wasn't on Stetson East's menu. Just the thought

of eating in the dining hall again makes you want to become a vegan or simply fast till you're a senior. Little do you know that just three stops on the orange line to Jackson Square you can enjoy the closest thing to a home cooked meal in Boston, at El Oriental De Cuba.

This family owned establishment has been around for eleven years and at the present time is owned by Noel Garcia. El Oriental De Cuba does not only give delicious food oozing with flavor and spice, but steadfastly gives you huge servings at reasonable prices. You can basically catch the "itis" with-

out breaking your wallet.

La comida on the menu is from family Cuban recipes, but dishes from the Caribbean and South America are also offered. On any given day, you have Indians, Latinos, Jamicans, and even Caucasians chowing down at 416 Centre Street on some Cuban tamales, maderas, arroz con pollo, and some mango tropical shake to wash it all down..Breakfast and catering serves are offered, and yes, thank God, they do deliver. So, the next time you are starving and just can't subject yourself to the dining hall food, stop by El Oriental De Cuba. - Delali Goka

### 542 Columbus Ave. Boston, Mass

House of Siam has been consistently voted as one of Boston's best Thai restaurants. If trying new and exotic flavors is your thing, this is the restaurant for you. The squid tempura appetizer consists of tender rings of squid, deep-fried to golden skins with special dipping sauce. The Pad Thai entree is offered in a vegetarian, shrimp, seafood, and crispy version. House of Siam offers Curry, Seafood, Salads, and Soups. Vegetarian options are plentiful. Of course, you cannot end your meal at House of Siam without dessert. Pearl pudding with tapioca and coconut meat will have your mouth watering. And, coconut fried ice cream with honey is a great end to a delicious meal. House of Siam offers valet parking and is located in a prime location of the South End. The outside of House of Siam is beautifully landscaped with floral arrangements and is lit by Christmas lights at night. Due to the restaurants affordable yet plentiful meals and classy setting it's definitely a recommended spot to take a significant other. - Melissa Potter



### 132 Boston Street Mattapan Mass

Le Foyer which is off of Blue Hill Ave directly across from the gas station is a small bakery that upholds a very simple look. Perhaps at first glance you would never have thought that this bakery with such a simplistic look could possibly have the best Haitian Patties in Boston. The few plants they had around the bakery and even the two very colorful paintings representing a small village which were hung on the left wall could not add a little flavor to the place. This would be the perfect time to remember the old adage; "never judge a book by its cover". Who needs a heavily decorated bakery, when you make the best patties around? Anything more would just be gravy. They have three types of Patties: beef (\$.68), chicken (\$1.86), and Tuna (\$.77). They also bake all types of cakes for special occasions. To go to Le Foyer, take the # 28 bus from Ruggles station or the # 31 from Forest Hills. - Fredeline Joseph



### 1114 Boylston Street Boylston, Mass

A line extends out to the sidewalk on Boylston Street from the inside of Little Stevie's Back Bay House of Pizza every Friday and Saturday morning at around 3 a.m. To those who may not hail from Boston this sounds normal; for most others, however, the shop serves as a boon in wake of the city's 2 o'clock curfew. The interior of the pizza shop is somewhat rough; cafeteria-style tables and chairs supply the furniture, and there is little decoration, save for a few Budweiser signs. The reserved cooks do not help matters, but it is not the ambiance or the cooks that keep people coming back to Little Stevie's. It is simply the pizza. With single slices the size of three put together at a cheap price of \$1.65, no wonder the lines are long. So when you work up an appetite after a night of shaking it up and spending money on Lansdowne, have no fear; Little Stevie's is here, with pizza that will definitely fill your stomach and not empty your wallet. - Kat Noel





## DOWNTOWN CROSSING

**L** The Discount Shoe Warehouse is the spot if you need some inexpensive shoes to go with your not too pricey outfit. With boots, sandals, flip-flops, and casual shoes DSW's assorted selection is every shoe lover's fantasy.

For the extreme penny pincher who loves an adventure Filene's Basement is where it's at. The historical discount department store offers name brand goodies at rock bottom prices. If searching through piles of clothes to find a pair of pants at 70% off is your thing then Filene's is definitely your kind of shop.

Aside easy on the pocket clothing stores Downtown Crossing also offers HMV for the music lovers, ALDOS, Nine West, Barnes and Nobles, and Hip Zepl.

After shopping gets you hungry stop by Finagle-A-Bagel. Practically any type of bagel you can imagine they have with a large assortment of toppings.

Go to Downtown Crossing when you need that perfect pair of shoes to go dance all night in or are looking for low-priced clothing that will make you look good and not empty your wallet.

- Kat Noel



## SOUTHSHORE PLAZA MALL

Forget Prudential, forget Newbury, forget Downtown Crossing, and even Cambridgeside; South Shore Plaza Mall is the place to shop. Lacking stores like Louis Vuitton, Armani Exchange, and "Too-High" Boutique South Shore is a mall for the average shopper. Having stores like Claire's, Gap, American Eagle, and Express make South Shore more like the mall from "back home." If you don't have a lot of money, but you do have a little time and don't mind some travel, then South Shore Plaza Mall is for you.


Don't get me wrong, South Shore can also appeal to the expensive shoppers. There is a Coach store for the purse-lovers, a Miltons for the professional men, Kay Jewelers, and a Lord & Taylor for all home and clothing needs. This mall is extremely versatile to all needs and spending limits.

South Shore's also has a food court, which includes a Johnny Rockets, Beantown Burrito, Quiznos Classic Subs, La Cucina di Capri, and more. There are also restaurants surrounding the mall including Pizzeria Uno Chicago Bar and Grill, and Joe's American Bar and Grill.

Located in Braintree, Massachusetts, South Shore Plaza is a trek from campus. If you are driving, South Shore is located at the intersection of Route 3 and I-93. If you are taking public transportation, you will get on the redline train headed towards Braintree and get off at Quincy Center. From there you will take the #238 bus to South Shore Plaza Mall. Just as a warning, if you are taking the "T", it costs \$2 to get back into the station at Braintree, Quincy Adams, and Quincy Center, so be prepared. Remember this always shop-a-holics: "Spend responsibly."

- Kimberly Washington





NEWBURY STREET

NEWBURY ST

**A** walk down Newbury Street is an adventure all in one strip. On a regular day, crowds of people from all lifestyles pace the street. One could come across an artist painting striking pieces, biker men and women driving bright red and lime green Harley Davidson's, punk rockers hanging out in front Newbury Comics, businesswomen taking lunch breaks, college students heading to interviews, families dining at outdoor restaurants, tourists site-seeing and couples window shopping.

Newbury is one of the longest, chic streets in Boston. It spans eight blocks, and entertains top designer stores such as Chanel, Emporio Armani, and United Colors of Benetton, Diesel, French connection and DKNY. Newbury is the place to be, to shop, to eat and live lavishly. In addition, there is room for entertainment, pampering, wining, dining, and most importantly exploration.

At the beginning of Newbury you will find exclusive shops, fine cuisine, top of the line fashion designers. Then as you head less than a mile down you will encounter sidewalk cafés, modish clothing stores, florists, extravagant art galleries, amongst spas, hair salons and countless mouth-watering restaurants that will take you by surprise if you let them. Watch out and look carefully. Some of these venues are built in between blocks of cobblestone buildings that make it difficult to notice

them initially. Make sure to take your time when making this trip; you do not want to miss a thing.

Stop by L'ESPALIER, an elegant French restaurant located at 30 Gloucester St. The classically carved marble fireplace is enough to set a romantic mood, if you are interested in showing your mate a lovely time. One Tuesday of every month L'ESPALIER has a Cheese Tuesday special that includes a four-course meal served

therapeutic services that promote health.

Your money will take you far at La Famiglia Giorgio an Italian restaurant, where portions are exceptionally large, and the food is superb. One serving of their pasta, veal, chicken, or seafood dish could feed you twice.

Like shoes? Jasmine SOLA Shoes has a collection of both affordable and comfy footwear. Brand names like, Aerosole,

**Newbury is the place to be, to shop, to eat and live lavishly. In addition, there is room for entertainment, pampering, wining, dining, and most importantly exploration.**

with cheese and Fine wine, all for \$55.00 per person.

Desert anyone? From summer to fall melt into a \_mocha chip, maple butter walnut frappe, ice cream sundae or nonfat yogurt at J.P. Licks. Choose from a lengthy menu of assorted homemade ice cream, which has helped J.P. Licks get rated the number one ice cream stop in town.

Have you had a long day filled with studying? Put down the book and head down to a place like Bella Sante for liberation. Their services include: acupuncture facials and Reika massages amongst additional forms of

Charles David, Chinese Laundry, Diba, Diesel and Me Too headline the wide selection in this store. Another Newbury shop, Jasmine Boutique, carries the latest upcoming trends for fall: cuff links, leather jackets and pants, suede coats and fancy watches.

Newbury also offers Brooks Brothers, Puma, and Gap Men for all the male shoppers.

Get acquainted with Newbury now and shop later. Be informed that window-shopping is not only therapeutic, but is also a money saver.

- Sasha Link



## CARMAN'S BEAUTY SALON



Open 7 days a week  
9am- 5:30pm

Sets, wraps, cuts, coloring, and perms are all superb at this Dominican beauty salon. Located in Brigham Circle, Carman's is the perfect location for ladies of all shades who want their hair to have a healthy shine and bounce. With it's reasonable prices, and stop right off the E line T, Carman's is a must. Open 7 days a week, you can always look good for a night on the town. Usually packed on Friday and Saturday afternoons it would be wise to opt for a midweek appointment. Walk ins are also welcomed. So for those last minute ladies this is perfect.

- Melissa Potter

*cont. from pg. 3 Open Book*

on strange walls, pictures that of course reminded me of home. Home where I know and care for the people around me. Home four hours, three tolls, two police checks and one gas stop away.

I began to take more things out of my boxes and came across my high school yearbook. It had been almost three months since I even looked at it. The memories in my yearbook. Memories that took four years worth of time to compile. The profiles, the group shots, the comments, all reminded me of that day four years ago when I knew nothing about what was going to happen and loved every minute of it.

I see all of my chapters as transitions into my life. With each page in each chapter, I add a great deal of life to the one that already existed. With my love for music, I see myself as the ultimate recruiter and phenomenal producer. I'm making the band, adding on to the ensemble that started off with just a few words and hand claps and now accompany a diverse spectrum of instruments that fuse together to create the riddims, melodies and tunes of my life. Harmonizing with the vocals that are my thoughts over the instrumentals that are my experiences. I am ready to embrace change, not letting go of the foundation that is me, just like the format used for creating da remix, opportunities to be exact..

## GENTLE TOUCH

Is it about time for a touch-up, a good press, or a hot oil treatment? If so, Gentle Touch hair salon is your one-stop shop for all hair services. Housing five stylist, Gentle Touch offers many services in its spacious area. Located in the newly renovated Grove Hall, the hair stylist are available to give personal attention to all those who are in need of their services.

When you walk into the shop, you immediately feel welcomed by a smile and a hello from the receptionist. The receptionist then notifies the stylist that you have arrived and while you wait, you are directed to have a seat on the comfortable leather couch by the window so that you can look outside at the hustle and bustle of Grove Hall. Once the stylist begins your hair, you are given personal treatment throughout the entire process. Charges for hair services range from \$25 (wash and style) to \$75 (full weave).

up on your hairstyle. Each stylist has her own specialty. In particular, Anita specializes in doing hot comb presses, perms, and weaves. The other stylists have comparable specialties, from permanent/temporary colors and highlights to braids and natural hair-styles.

Deciding what hairstyle you want to rock is difficult, but getting there is simple. From campus, hop on the #23, #28, #19, #14 and it will take you directly to Grove Hall. Make sure that you call first to make an appointment. The number is 617-442-5334. Now, pick up the phone and get yo' hair did!

- Kimberly Washington

By appointment only, you can get the hook



## Hothead's has hot prices and hot styles!

It's that time again, ladies! That's right, it is time for a touch-up, but where do you go for friendly service and manageable prices, not to mention located pretty close by? How about Hothead Mecca Hair Studio, located five minutes away from Northeastern at 25 Hemmingway Street.

Upon entering the neat, three-story red brick building, you walk up 3 flights of stairs to apartment number three. Once inside, you are greeted by the smiling face and friendly attitude of Lacey, who makes the salon her home. You will feel at home, too, in the apartment that serves as a salon. With the

bare hardwood floors and college banners that hang on the walls, feel free to sit in Lacey's chair by the window overlooking Hemmingway Street. Slip off your shoes, slide on a pair of complimentary flip-flops and sip a cold bottle of water while you listen to the radio and relax as you get your hair done.

Salon services include hair, manicures, facials and make-up, all by appointment only. So what are you waiting for? Give Lacey and call and let her know you are coming. She will be glad to see you and you will be glad that you came!

- Adrienne Thomas

### Hothead Mecca Hair Studio

25 Hemmingway Street (five minutes from Northeastern)  
Boston, Massachusetts

617-905-4202 Ask for Lacey

Services: Hair, Manicures, Facials, and Make-up. By appointment only.

Hothead Records-Boston based Hip-Hop label

Talent Wanted

Contact Mac Mooney at 857-492-6472

## Monday - Saturday 9am - 6pm

This is perhaps the most organized and most presentable beauty supply store in all of Boston. Not only does it include shampoos, hair grease, all the typical products that you expect in a beauty supply store, but it also includes curling irons, razors, and many products that do not only pertain to women. Venus also carries the latest brands of hair extensions for either braiding or weaving which allows women to sport the most up to date hair styles. Besides being one of the best beauty supply store, it is the most convenient. It is located on Blue Hill Avenue (Bus # 28 or #31) and also in Central Square (red line).

- Adrienne Thomas





## BEREA SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

**A** short trip from Ruggles on the #22 or #9 bus will lead you to 108 Seaver Street and the doors of Berea Seventh Day Adventist Church in Dorchester.

Pastor Walter Jones will feed your spirit and uplift your soul as you worship along with him and the congregation, every Saturday at 11 am. Sabbath school begins at 9:15 and Adventist youth can get their praise on, on Saturdays at 5pm.

Give God praise. Enter into the gates of Berea and experience a blessing.

- Rosena Cemet

## NEW COVENANT



"Praise the Lord, In all the Earth."  
Nestled in the heart of the Dorchester/Mattapan community is an enormous place of worship welcoming all people. New Covenant Christian Church, with a congregation totaling more than 5,000, welcomes the old, young, black, white, asian, you name it! Led by Bishop Gilbert Thompson,

**"Praise the Lord, In all the Earth."**

this church has soared to new heights, becoming one of the largest and fastest growing churches in the Boston metropolitan area. NCCC offers servic-

es to satisfy all types: the early bird 8am service, the 10am service, and the sleepy-head 12pm service every Sunday.

NCCC is a nondenominational church who's vision is to "establish God's kingdom in the city: spiritually, economically, socially, educationally, politically, and culturally--in every way, by any godly means necessary." NCCC has many different ministries to meet the

## UNION BAPTIST CHURCH



**W**hen the everyday stresses of college life are getting you down and you feel like placing your troubles in the hands of a higher power Union Baptist Church is the place to go. Due to its location right next door to MIT and Harvard University, Union's congregation is made up of many college students. The heavenly voices of the churches' gospel choir promises to keep your hands clapping and give you that warm feeling down deep in your soul. With a pinch of humor and a whole lot of truth Reverend Jeffrey L. Brown's sermons are thought provoking and inspiring. The times you may feel a little home sick or test and trials seem to be all that you know it's comforting to be surrounded by people who share your same faith.

Sunday 7:45 and 10:45 service

- Kat Noel

needs of its diverse congregation. Some of these include: singles' ministry, women's/men's ministry, Covenant academy (pre-k to 5th grade), youth ministry (6th grade-12th grade), financial counseling ministry, music and arts ministry, NCC Health Network, and many more. These ministries are extremely active--NCCC is located at 1500 Blue Hill Avenue in Dorchester, Massachusetts. If you leaving from campus, take the #28 bus from Ruggles Station. Stay on the bus for about twenty minutes, having passes Dudley Square, Grove Hall, and Franklin Park. Your stop is at the corner of Blue Hill Avenue and Woodstock Street. If you think you will miss it, just as the bus driver. Now that you are interested in NCCC and you know how to get there, get on up and "Praise the Lord, in all the Earth." He's waiting for you, with open arms

- Rosena Cemet



## COMEDY CONNECTION

Knock, Knock.

Who's there?

You.

You who?

You should be at the Comedy Connection where the jokes are hilarious, the comedians are in the top form and the food and drinks are plentiful.

The Comedy Connection is bound to have you in stitches. Prices vary depending on the acts. Past comedians that have graced the Comedy Connection stage include Don D.C Curry, DL Hughley, and Arnez J. Keep it marked on your calendar that Sommore, the former host of Comic View and a Queen of Comedy, will be at the Comedy Connection on November 22nd and 23rd.

- Adrienne Thomas

## MUSEUM OF AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORY

It's not apparent by walking down the cobblestone streets and passing by the high priced mansions of Beacon Hill that the area was once known as the heart of Boston's 19th century African-American community.

In the midst of this Boston historical center on 46 Joy St sits the Museum of Afro-American History, which mission is to 'preserve, conserve and accurately interpret the contributions of African Americans during the colonial period in New England'. The MAAH is known as New England's largest museum of

African-American history. Through the use of hundreds of artifacts, exhibits, educational workshops, and special events the Museum of Afro-American History is able to tell the story of African-Americans in an accurate historical perspective.

Right behind the Museum is the African Meeting House, which during the 1800s served as a church, school, and community-meeting place.

The MAAH also offers the Black Heritage Trail Tours. The 1.6-mile guid-

ed walking tour takes visitors to fourteen historical sites around Beacon Hill. The tours are offered by the National Park Service daily, Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend, and other times by special request. With the help of the Black Heritage Trail Tours and African Meeting House, the Museum of Afro-American History is able to accomplish their goal of 'educating the public about the importance of Afro American's historical legacy and celebrating the enduring vitality of African American culture'.

- Kat Noel

## SUGAR SHACK AND BIG EASY

Want to take a trip to New Orleans without leaving Boston? Then The Big Easy is just the place for you. For a taste of N'awlins flava, come down to The Alley, located at 1 Boylston Place, right off of the Boylston T-stop and celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend. Friday and Saturday nights are jumping with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40 hits along with dance bands to keep crowds moving. The Big Easy is a 2 level establishment with a wrap around balcony, ideal for tossing

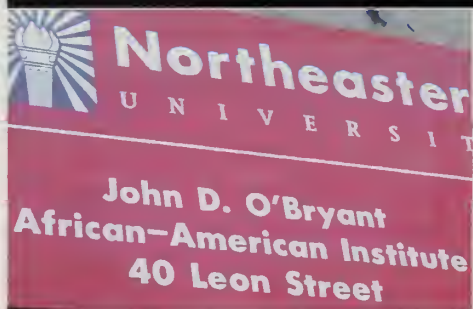
multicolored beads into the crowds below you, on the dance floor. To add to the Mardi Gras experience, confetti is thrown out into the crowd at midnight.

If you missed your chance to kick it at the beach this summers, not a problem. The Sugar Shack, also located in The Alley, keeps it crunk with hip-hop and R&B Thursday and Sunday nights. The palm trees and Hawaiian necklaces provide a tropical atmosphere. The Big Easy is 21 plus on Friday and Saturday

nights with a \$8 cover and The Sugar Shack is 19 plus on Thursday and Sunday, where the cover charge is \$10. For both places, the dress code calls for no sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

- Adrienne Thomas





On such a large college campus it is important for everyone to find a place to belong and feel at home. We students want to go somewhere we can have long discussions about the issues that matter to us or meet people that share our same culture and heritage. The Latin@ Student Cultural Center and the John D O'Bryant African American Institute are two buildings that offer that feeling of a smaller community within a larger one.

Upon entering the LSCC, on 104 Forsyth St, a visitor's eyes cannot help but notice the bulletin board covered with poloraid snapshots. The name of the wall is the Connections Wall and written above all the photos is the LSCC's mission which is, "Empowering Latin Leaders of Tomorrow in an Increasing Global Environment". The wall represents a tree and on the bottom of that tree are photos of the LSCC's faculty and staff who play the role of the roots. Above them are photos of the numerous diverse students that use and visit the LSCC. The students are the fruit of the tree that receive guidance and 'nourishment' from the faculty and staff.

In 1994, the NU Latino@ Committee, which was made up of faculty, administrators, staff and students, proposed a plan for a cultural center to unite the academic, cultural, and social needs of NU's Latinos/as. The work of the committee culminated in the opening of the Latin@ Student Cultural Center on October 2nd, 1997. The LSCC houses the Latino, Latin American, and

Caribbean Studies Program.

Some of the LSCC's programs, services, and activities include: academic and personal advising, student leadership training, Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations, and community outreach and service opportunities. The building houses a conference room, kitchen, computer room, and an outdoor patio.

The LSCC is also closely tied with the Latin American Student Organization, Society of Latin@ Alumni, Latin@ Law Student Association, Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, and the Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting.

Elena M. Quiroz, the LSCC's Director, hopes that the center serves as a nurturing spot for students so that they

is 'an academic cultural, and social setting for students'. It also serves as an event facility for the University and surrounding community. The first floor of the Tute is also where students can be found either in the conference room conducting an organization meeting, in the student lounge watching a movie, or on line at the Tute kitchen buying a beef pattie and Malta. The second floor houses the Northeastern Black Student Association, computer lab, and staff offices. On the third and last floor of the Institute is the advertising office of The Onyx Informer, NAACP, and the Tute's library. For anyone who wishes to learn more about their own or other various cultures the Institute library is the place to go. It houses a collection of materials in the form of audio-visual, books, microforms, and periodicals. The library also offers study areas and

**The students are the fruit of the tree that receive guidance and 'nourishment' from the faculty and staff.**

can grow and hopefully plant seeds and help others wherever they go.

Passed Centennial Quad and Shillman sits the three floored John D O'Bryant African American Institute on 40 Leon St. The Tute, which upperclassmen affectionately call the building, was established in 1968 to serve as an academic support facility for Black Students.

The passionate voices of students discussing current events and campus issues can be heard coming from the Amilcar Cabral Center. The Cabral Center, which was established in 1975,

four computers.

The Kwanzaa Celebration, Martin Luther King Convocation, and Roland E. Latham Oratory Competition are a few of the activities the Institute holds annually.

The outward appearance of the Latin@ Student Cultural Center and the John D O'Bryant African American Institute may seem modest but don't allow that to fool you for on the inside of both buildings is history, culture, support, and a home away from home.

- Kat Noel





## OFFICE OF SPECIAL SUPPORT SERVICES

**O**n any given day students can be found passionately discussing race, Northeastern, the outside community, relationships and life in general with the Office of Special Support Services staff. Both NU alumni Mark Harvey and Dean Ella Robertson make sure that everyone who passes through their doors feels welcome to be themselves and express their opinions and due to this fact students constantly keep the office in 307 Ell Hall lively with debate and conversation. Walk into Dean Robertson's office and you can't help but notice her walls, which are covered with hundreds of photos of students that she has come across over the years. The office's main function is to oversee the Office of Student Athletic Services (SAS) and also the Legacy 2000 Mentoring and Retention Program. The Office of Special Support Services also offers academic, financial, and personal counseling. It promotes academic excellence through the wall of fame and their annual honor roll dinner. If you're having some trouble or just want someone to talk stop by the Office of Special Support Services a place where students are guaranteed to feel welcomed.

This office is open from 9-5 pm Monday through Friday.

- Rosena Comet

## OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID

**T**he financial aid office is a place that most students often dread visiting. If you do not know how the office runs, the stay may not be an easy one. This office provides financial support and advice to all students. Every student is assigned a counselor, according to the first letter of your last name. If you need to contact your counselor, the best way is to make an appointment by email or come in during walk-in hours. The financial aid office is located in 356 Richards Hall. It is open from 8:30- 4:30 pm Monday thru Friday. The office also offers services in the evening until 7pm in Hayden Hall. Do not be afraid to ask your financial aid counselor any questions that you may have about your financial situation; they are a resource, so use them.

- Rosena Comet



## CAPE VERDEANS : DIVERSE, PROUD AND REPPING HARD



For many of us coming to Boston is the first time we've heard of the Cape Verdean culture or even were aware that there is an island called Cape Verde. While new to some of us Cape Verdean people have a rich history that spans over six hundred years.

The Republic of Cape Verde is made up of ten islands and five islets off the coast off of the west coast of Africa. Cape Verde, a beautiful island made up of white sand beaches, clear blue waters, and huge mountains is guaranteed to take any visitor's breathe away.

Though Cape Verde gained its independence from the Portuguese in 1975 the culture and society is still greatly influenced by the many people that had settled on the islands. Due to the earlier presence of Italians, French, Spaniards, Dutch, Arabs and its closeness to Africa Cape Verdean people vary greatly in skin tones and physical attributes.

"There are so many varieties and so many European cultures that go into us that I have cousins with blonde hair and blue eyes," said Northeastern's Cape Verdean Student Association's Treasurer, Stacey DaSilva, "You get every kind of skin color and hair texture. We come in all shapes and sizes."

Similar to many cultures of African descent some Cape Verdeans use skin color to create a class system with the lighter skin tone on the top of the hierarchy.

"You get a lot of Cape Verdeans that won't say that they are black or African," shared DaSilva, "They'll sometimes say they're Caucasian or Portuguese. All of us have a little bit of African in us. I guess since some of us are raised with more of a Portuguese upbringing it may have been "better" to be white."

Cape Verdean people are spread all throughout the world. There are actually more Cape Verdeans outside of the island then in Cape Verde. Since the 1700s Cape Verdeans have been immigrating to America especially Massachusetts. Economic reasons are the main cause why many leave the island. Good folk

" Since we've been in a drought, for I don't know how many years, it's made it hard to live there. There's famine. We also import everything there's not much money coming into the island. A lot of us in America send food back to Cape Verde. My grandfather lives over there and we're always sending food to him," said DaSilva.

Like many ethnic groups that have settled in the United States before them, Cape Verdeans have experienced their share of stereotypes. One stereotype that Cape Verdeans are branded with is that they are violent people. DaSilva believes that the label has come about due to the image of America many Cape Verdeans have before arriving here.

"They think that it's so easy in

America and that Americans have all this money. Back in Cape Verde they basically believe that money grows on trees here. So when they come to America they aren't prepared," explained DaSilva, " Incoming Cape Verdeans are coming from a place where hard work is manual labor. You're working in the fields and on the boats. That's what they think of hard work and then they come here and they are put in a place where they're stuck at Burger King or factories and they really can't adjust as well. Some may come with their parents but their parents aren't any help because they're an older generation and used to their old ways from back in Cape Verde. So the kids are basically left on their own here to do what they want and that's how they get into trouble. Their way of adjusting has been to come together as gangs. This isn't all Cape Verdeans. A lot have come here and do really well here but the media always portrays the worse side. That's what a lot of people are seeing now in communities like Roxbury and Dorchester."

Northeastern's Cape Verde Students' Association wants to combat the stereotypes by bringing awareness and helping the Cape Verdeans on campus as well as off. In the upcoming school year they have a lot in store including a possible book drive and tentative community service trip to Cape Verde during spring break.

"To me being a Cape Verdean means being special," expressed DaSilva, "No one else in the world can say that their culture is made up of so many things but at the same time we're all one. That's what makes us so unique."



## BLACK AND LATINO STUDENT ORGANIZATION PROFILES

**Black Student Empowerment Coalition-**  
bsec\_afam@yahoo.com

**Black Engineer Student Society-BESS/NSBE**

BESS', which is the student affiliate of the professional National Society of Black Engineers, mission is to increase the number of culturally responsible engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community.

Meetings: Thursday at 7pm in room 333 in the Curry Student Center.

Website: [www.nsbe.neu.edu](http://www.nsbe.neu.edu)

**Brothers About Change-**  
bac\_nu@hotmail.com

**Cape Verdean Students' Association-CVSO**

The Cape Verdean Students Association of Northeastern University was founded in February of 2003 by a group of students at Northeastern to promote and represent Cape Verdean culture and history in the US and Cape Verde. The organization aims at outreach to the large college-bound Cape Verdean population in Greater Boston and to serve as a voice to Cape Verde's great and beautiful culture.

Website: [www.cvsu.neu.edu](http://www.cvsu.neu.edu)

Meetings: Wednesday at 7:30pm on the 3rd floor of the John D. O'Bryant African American Institute

**Caribbean Students' Organization-CSO**

This Organization is united in order to promote Caribbean unity, cultural awareness, togetherness, social interest and academic excellence. We also encourage the fostering of friendships, association among students, encourage

academic development and achievement of members and provide a familiar environment for students from the Caribbean region, of Caribbean parentage or of Caribbean interest. CSO meets on Wednesdays from 6 p.m.- 7 p.m. in room 333 of the Curry Student Center  
Office phone: 617-373-8292  
E-Mail: [nu\\_cso\\_02@hotmail.com](mailto:nu_cso_02@hotmail.com)  
President: Janet Allen--phone: 617-908-6377 e-mail: [janetalicia@hotmail.com](mailto:janetalicia@hotmail.com)  
Vice President: Jennifer Adrien--phone: 617-750-2822 e-mail: [jkneehigh@hotmail.com](mailto:jkneehigh@hotmail.com)

**Haitian Student Unity-**  
[haitianstudentunity@yahoo.com](mailto:haitianstudentunity@yahoo.com)

**Latin American Student Organization:**  
[gilbyoso@aol.com](mailto:gilbyoso@aol.com)

**Northeastern African Student Organization:**  
[nasoeboard@hotmail.com](mailto:nasoeboard@hotmail.com)

**Northeastern University College Chapter National Association for the Advancement of Colored People -NU NAACP**

The Northeastern University Chapter of the NAACP is designed to improve the political, educational, social, and economic status of minority groups; to eliminate racial prejudice through education and increasing awareness of differences to promote tolerance; to keep the community aware of the adverse effects of racial discrimination; and to take all lawful action to secure elimination of racial discrimination and other disparities placed upon racial groups.

Meeting Date: Tuesdays 7pm-8pm at

the John D O'Bryant African American Institute(by announcement only)

NU NAACP  
John D. O'Bryant African American Institute  
40 Leon Street, Rm 311  
Boston, MA 02115  
617-373-4922  
617-373-4915 (fax)  
E-Mail: [nu\\_naacp@yahoo.com](mailto:nu_naacp@yahoo.com)

**Northeastern Black Media Association-NBMA**

The Northeastern Black Media Association, a sub-chapter of the Boston Association of Black Journalists, (BABJ), which is an affiliate organization of the National Association of Black Journalists, (NABJ), shall have as its objectives the organizing of minority students principally interested in pursuing a career in journalism and communications.

Meetings: Wednesdays 6:30-7:30pm in 435 CSC

Camila Crews, President  
[camila\\_crews@yahoo.com](mailto:camila_crews@yahoo.com)  
Phone: 401-965-8138

**Northeastern University Cultural Dance-** nudanceorganization@yahoo.com

**Northeastern's Black Student Association-**  
[nubsa@hotmail.com](mailto:nubsa@hotmail.com)

**Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority**

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority's aim is to enhance the quality of life within the community. Public service, leadership development and education of youth are the hallmark of the organization's



programs and activities. Sigma Gamma Rho addresses concerns that impact society educationally, civically, and economically.

Chapter E-Mail: sgrho1984@hotmail.com  
Chapter Website: www.geocities.com/sgrhoboston  
Chapter President: Arria Wright Phone: 617-469-4110,  
Chapter Vice-President: Nicole Bullock Phone: 267-207-3319

## Student National Medical Association/Minority

Association of Prehealth Students-SNMA/MAPS  
SNMA/MAPS mission is to to promote increases in the levels of minority student recruitment, admissions, and retention in schools training health professions. Our purpose is to provide meaningful support and resources to all minority students interested in health careers.  
Tentative Meeting: Tuesdays at 7:30  
E-Mail: numinorityprehealth@hotmail.com  
Unity Gospel Ensemble - unity\_ensemble@hotmail.com

## Xcel

Xcel Females' Center of Excellence and Leadership is a female-based organization dedicated to the professional, academic and personal development of its members. Xcel has three committees, which include Community Service, Fundraising and Leadership Programs. Xcel also has under development a unique Mentoring Program. The Mentoring Program consists of professionals and members of professional organizations who participate, as mentors, within the program. We are constantly looking for women who are interested in being a part of our organization that are committed and prepared to assist us with its mission.

Phone: (617) 373-8280  
E-Mail: nu\_xcel@yahoo.com  
Webiste: www.Xcel.neu.edu

## Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.:

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. is a community conscious, action-oriented organization, encouraging the highest standards of scholarship through scientific, literary, cultural and educational programs; promote service projects on college campuses and in the communi-

ty; foster sisterhood and exemplify the ideal of Finer Womanhood.

President/Z-HOPE Coordinator:  
Tryphaena Williams Basileus  
Theta Alpha Chapter  
Personal E-Mail: missphaena@yahoo.com

Chapter E-Mail: theta\_alpha1920@hotmail.com

Chapter Web Site: [http://www.geocities.com/zpb\\_thunderousthetaalpha](http://www.geocities.com/zpb_thunderousthetaalpha)



### Praise and Worship

Morning Star Baptist Church-  
Baptist - 1257 Blue Hill Ave  
Mattapan, MA

...

Friendship Apostolic Church -  
Apostolic- 275 Washington St  
Dorchester, MA

Church- 149 Roxbury St. Roxbury

### Get Your Eat On

Chef Lee's - 554 Columbia Rd  
Dorchester, MA

Bob the Chef's- 604 Columbus  
Ave. Roxbury



...

Charles Street AME Church- 551  
Warren St Dorchester, MA

...

St. Ann- Catholic- 68 Saint  
Stephen St Boston, MA



Ray's Soul Kitchen- 239 Dudley  
St. Roxbury

Ali's Roti Restaurant- 1035  
Tremont St. Roxbury



...

Muhammed's Mosque #15-  
Grove Hall, Washington St

...

St. John's St. James Episcopal



Keith's Place - 469 Blue Hill Ave  
Dorchester, MA

House of Siam- 542 Columbus  
Ave Boston, MA

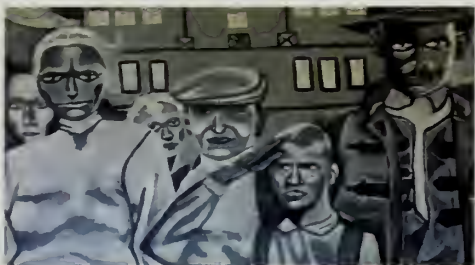


Freedom Café- 300 Martin Luther King Blvd Roxbury, MA



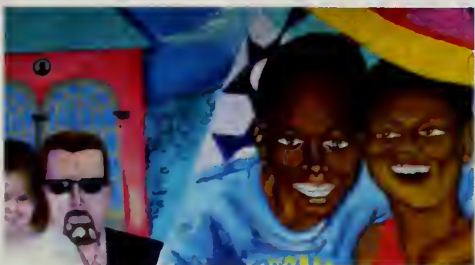
Jake's Barbecue - 3492 Washington St Jamaica Plain, MA

Magnolia's - 1193 Cambridge St Cambridge, MA



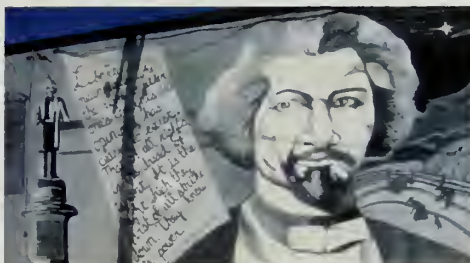
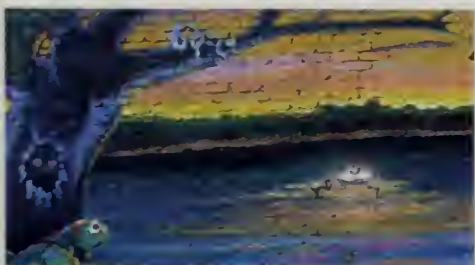
Slade Bar & Grill - 958 Tremont St Roxbury Crossing, MA

Sorellas- 388 Centre St Jamaica Plain, MA



Zon's - 2 Perkins St Jamaica Plain, MA

Mi Pueblito - 333 Border St, East Boston



Yours Takeout- 7 Washington St Dorchester

New York Pizza- 224 Tremont St Boston

### So Fresh and So Clean

First Impressions- 159 Washington St # A Dorchester, MA

Kay's Hair Salon- 1039 Tremont St Roxbury Crossing, MA



African Elegance Hair Braid - 1776 Dorchester Ave Dorchester Center, MA

Divine Styler - 754 Huntington Ave Boston, MA



Creations N' Hair - 80 Pearl St Cambridge, MA

Looking Good - 2241 Washington St Roxbury

Phoenix Hair Gallery - 502 River St Mattapan

A&B Barber's Shop- 410 Mass Ave Boston

### Out and About In Beantown

Harriet Tubman House - 566 Columbus Ave at Massachusetts Ave in Roxbury

Museum of Afro American Artists- 300 Walnut Ave



Arnold Arboretum - 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain

Franklin Park Zoo - Dorchester

Venu-100 Warrenton St Boston, MA



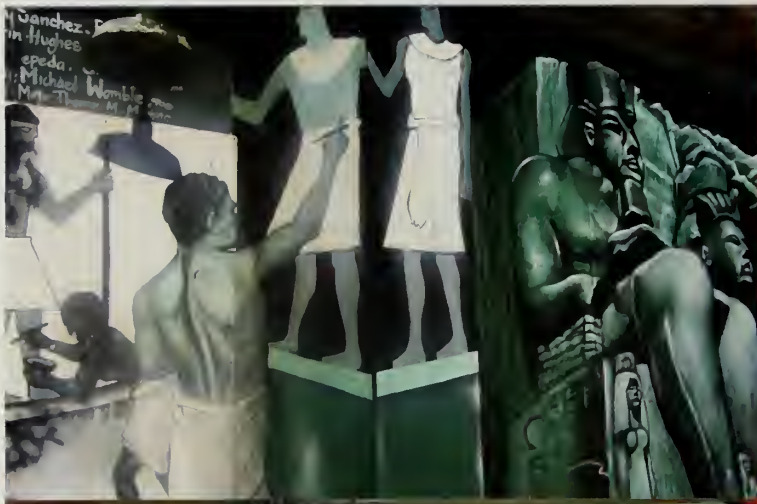
### Shopping Spots

Cambridgeside Galleria- Lechmere (Last stop on the inbound E Line)

Crystal's- 417 Washington St. Downtown







★ Bella  
Luna  
Milky  
Way

A TASTE OF BOSTON